



# The 12th Edition

Volume 5, Issue 7

Headquarters, Twelfth Air Force Supplement to the *Desert Airman*

Friday, July 11, 2003

## News Briefs

### Change of Command

Lt. Gen. William T. Hobbins will relinquish command of Twelfth Air Force on July 25 to Lt. Gen. Randall M. Schmidt, former Assistant, Deputy Chief of Staff for Air and Space Operations, HQ U.S. Air Force, Washington, D.C.

Air Combat Command commander Gen. Hal M. Hornburg will preside over the 9 a.m. ceremony.

There will be no parking available, so members who would like to attend must use the provided shuttle service. Details on the shuttle service will be in the July 18 *Desert Airman*.

### Enlisted Farewell

The Twelfth Air Force Top Three is sponsoring an enlisted farewell noon-2 p.m. Saturday at the officers' club.

This farewell is in honor of Lt. Gen. William T. Hobbins, 12th Air Force commander, who will be named the honorary president of the Twelfth Air Force Top Three.

Cost for the event is \$1 per person. Dress will be BDUs for active duty and Arizona Casual for civilians.

For tickets or more information, please call MSgt. L. Smith, 8-4274; MSgt. C. Smith, 8-2079; CMSgt. Schwarting, 8-6942; CMSgt. Crook, 8-2355; CMSgt. Kingsbury, 8-1033; SMSgt. French, 8-4689; CMSgt. Harper, 8-0792; or MSgt. Larsen, 8-5046.

### Got a story idea?

Does your workcenter have a new mission or some hi-tech equipment? Has someone in your unit recently participated in a major sports event or have a unique hobby, call 12th Air Force Public Affairs at 228-6053.

## Intel supports fire fighting efforts

Imagery specialists, analysts give precise, timely fire line information

By TSgt. Karin Wickwire  
12th Air Force Public Affairs

In early June, smoke started filling Tucson skies as the Aspen Fire began burning significant portions of the Catalina Mountains north of Davis-Monthan Air Force Base.

Within days, as the smoke clouds grew larger and the flames became easy to see at night from the base, 12th Air Force intelligence representatives contacted the Pima County Office of Emergency Management and Homeland Security to see if the national agencies, county officials and firefighters were getting all the support they needed.

"When we contacted the Pima County Office of Emergency Management and Homeland Security, the initial support they needed was a way to assess property status of homes and residences affected by the fire," according to Col. Mark Kipphut, 612th Air Intelligence Group commander.

In addition to the Pima County Office, the 612 AIG also talked with the Fire Service Situation Team to discuss possible support of their efforts to extinguish the continuously growing fire. "They required

a way to identify the fire lines and give coordinates of those lines to assist in fire firefighting efforts," said Col. Kipphut.

"Once we knew what type of support was needed, we contacted the 162nd Fighter Wing (Arizona Air National Guard) to coordinate use of their C-26 to obtain images of the affected communities and current fire lines," said Capt. Brian Collord, chief of Imagery Exploitation, 612th Air Intelligence Squadron.

After coordination, the 162 FW was able to turn two training sorties scheduled for the afternoons of June 23 and 24 into very realistic flights that mirrored real-world reconnaissance missions. Additionally, a state activation duty mission order was published which authorized the 162 FW to provide the imagery to the 612th Air Intelligence Squadron for processing and dissemination.

During the flights, the C-26 crew used their imagery sensors to take streaming digital video and still pictures of the fires. The still photos were either Electro-optical shots (i.e., normal daylight photos) or Infrared shots (i.e., photos showing heat), explained Capt. Collord.

After the aircraft landed, the video was downloaded onto a VHS tape, and the still photos were saved onto CD ROMs which were turned over to 612 AIS members. The 612 AIS imagery analysts then reviewed and analyzed the images using their own imagery exploitation software.

"Basically, we took the still images and documented the precise coordinates of each image. Our targeteers compared the coordinates with some small-scale maps/charts of the Catalina Mountains we had in stock to ensure the accuracy of the coordinates. We then plotted all the coordinates onto a digital mapping program and printed a map depicting the coordinates of each photo," said Capt. Collord.

"The final products we created were a map with markings depicting various points of the fire line, a spreadsheet outlining all the coordinates derived from the imagery, and a CD ROM with still EO and IR photos of the fire to give to the firemen. These images could be used for various purposes, such as assessing fire damage or analyzing terrain features."

See INTEL, Pg. 2



### Southern Star Award

Col. Gina Giles, 612th Theater Operations Group commander, congratulates Petty Officer Cruz, a P-3 crewmember, for receiving the 612 TOG Southern Star Award for Superior Performance. Petty Officer Cruz is deployed to the 478th Expeditionary Operations Squadron, Forward Operating Location Manta, Ecuador, and received the award in June.

Courtesy photo

## New commanders Soto Cano Air Base, Honduras

Lt. Col. Jack L. Briggs II took command of the Air Force Forces Joint Task Force-Bravo and 612th Air Base Squadron from Lt. Col. Thomas Dean in a change of command ceremony June 16 at Soto Cano Air Base, Honduras. Lt. Col. Briggs is the key commander in CINC USSOUTHCOM's "Gateway Architecture" and CINC USTRANSCOM's "Hub and Spoke" operation for Central and South America.

### FOL Curacao

Lt. Col. Rob Huber took command of the 429th Expeditionary Operations Squadron from Lt. Col. Mark Haskins during a change of command ceremony June 30 at Forward Operating Location Curacao. Lt. Col. Huber will command two FOLs, Curacao and Aruba, exercising USAF Executive Agent responsibilities providing full-spectrum 24/7 base operations support to ensure successful Joint Interagency Task Force-South CD operations.



# Intel

(Continued from Page 1)

These products were greatly needed by those people fighting the fire and the ones providing command and control services during the firefighting efforts.

"After talking in depth with both county officials and the firemen, it became evident that one of their main obstacles was deriving precise coordinates of where the fire was at a specific time," the captain explained. "The fire was moving very quickly and expanding rapidly. The coordinates were essential for command and control of all the service agencies fighting the fire. By taking the imagery derived from the C-26, we were able to plot the coordinates of the imagery onto a chart of the mountain and depict graphically where the fire-lines were located. This visibility gave the firemen accurate and timely coordinates of where the fire was."

By reaching out to lend a hand in the local community during the Aspen Fire, 12th Air Force accomplished its intention to provide support to those fighting the fire and also laid the groundwork for future cooperation.

"The best result from this endeavor was the creation of strong working relationships between Twelfth Air Force, Pima County, and the Fire Service Situation team and su-

perb and very realistic training for our intelligence professionals," said Col. Kipphut.

"Prior to this date, the county officials and fire fighters were not even aware that the capability existed here in Tucson to use an aircraft like the C-26 to assist them in fighting forest fires," the colonel explained. "By meeting with local officials one on one, discussing what they needed and outlining what we could provide, we were able to foster a strong working relationship and demonstrate that 12 AF was there to aid their efforts in any possible way. This could pay great dividends in the future."

In addition to helping the community, this event was also an excellent training opportunity for 12th Air Force.

"We need realistic training for our analysts and this was

perfect, we could practice our wartime skills and help the community at the same time," said Capt. Collord.

"On a personal note, our analysts here at the AIS really enjoyed putting in extra hours to help the local community fight these fires," added Capt. Collord. "We all got a lot of enjoyment and satisfaction working this project because it is not everyday that we in the intelligence career field can help our own community by doing our jobs."

## Special Recognition

*While this was a team effort by 12th Air Force, 612th Air Intelligence Group, 612th Air Intelligence Squadron, Arizona Air National Guard, Pima County Office of Emergency Management and the Fire Service Situation Team; a number of individuals need to be recognized for their outstanding support. From the 612 AIS: TSgt. Gordon, TSgt. Allan Myers, TSgt. Carrie Graue, SSgt. Marcella Avans, SSgt. Kristina Stoeher, SrA Denny Hodges, A1C Rachel Jackson, SSgt. Dan Button, SSgt. Alisha Wiggins, SrA Brian Burrows, Maj. Craig Eickhoff, Maj. Brian Berning, Capt. Brian Collord, and Capt. Christopher Curry. From the 162nd Fighter Wing, ANG: Maj. Beauregard and Maj. Whiden.*



## The 12th Edition



Editorial content for *The 12th Edition* is edited, prepared and provided by the Twelfth Air Force Public Affairs Office.

Contributions for *The 12th Edition* can be made directly to the Twelfth Air Force Public Affairs Office, Building 12, Suite 228, or through e-mail to 12af.pa@dm.af.mil. The editor can be reached directly at 228-6053.

All photographs are U.S. Air Force photos unless otherwise indicated.

*The 12th Edition* is a supplement to the *Desert Airman*, published by Aerotech News and Review, a private firm in no way connected with the U.S. Air Force, under exclusive written agreement with the 355th Wing. All Advertising is handled by Aerotech News and Review, 456 East Ave. K-4, Suite 8, Lancaster, Calif. 93535, phone (520) 623-9321. They can also be reached by E-mail at [aeroaz@earthlink.net](mailto:aeroaz@earthlink.net).

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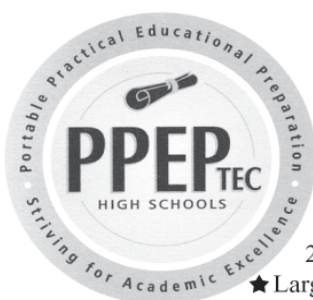
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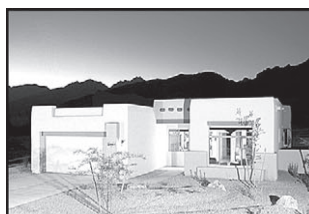
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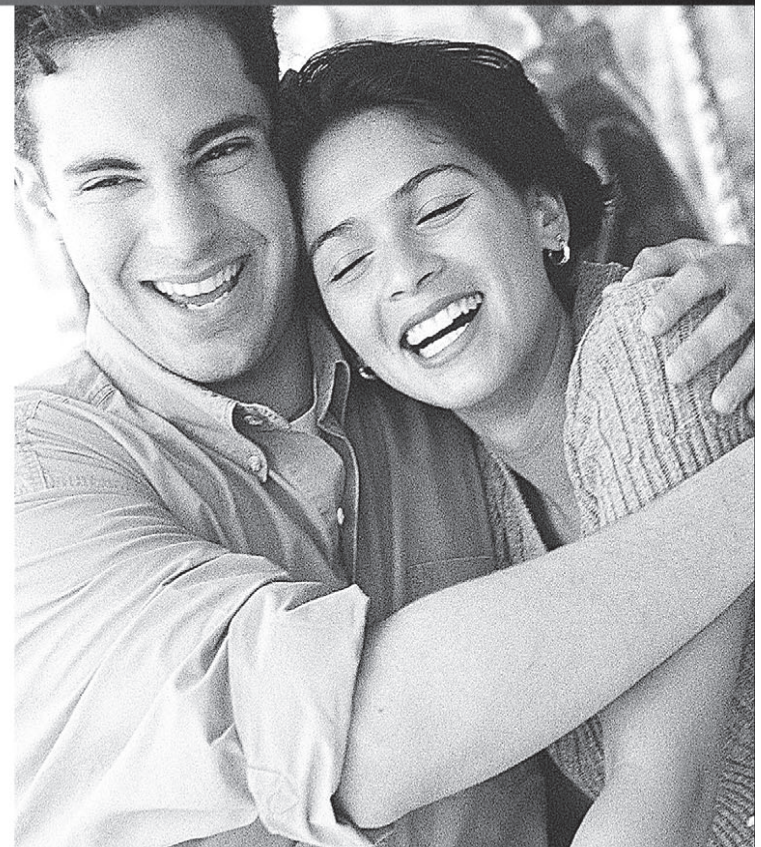
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# SALUTE!

Congratulations to 12th AF warriors who recently were – or soon will be – promoted to the rank indicated and those who were recently awarded medals recognizing their accomplishments

## Promotees

### Airman 1st Class

Robby Haliburton  
Charles Terry

### Senior Airman

Naomi Boris  
Adam Morales  
Karen Dykeman  
Micki Erdelac  
Gretchen Paulson

### Staff Sgt

Myra Heins  
Richard Landsverk

### Technical Sgt

Michelle Flatt  
Mark Brown  
Klifton Lee  
Glenn Sivells  
Michael Sanborn  
Helen Adams  
David Kiesling  
Carrie Graue

### Master Sgt

Frank Gorgos  
Walter Eaddy  
Stephen Scheidt

### Captain

Randall Haeberle  
Cheryl Hetherington  
Elizabeth Silva

### Major

Anthony Camerino  
Joseph Farron



### Lieutenant Colonel

Tracey Meck

## Award Recipients

### AF Commendation medal

TSgt. Michelle Flatt  
Capt. Simon Emanuels  
Capt. Carol McCrady

### Air Force Achievement Medal

SSgt. Myra Heins

### Meritorious Service Medal

Capt. Lynne Bayley  
Lt. Col. Nancy Paul  
Maj. Tamaira Rivera  
MSgt. Robert Smith

### Task Force Enduring Look Award

SSgt. Antoon Lee

## Top of the 12th

MSgt. Lennox Holmes is the Superintendent, Ground Theater Air Control System Stan/Eval Branch, 12th Air Force.

"MSgt. Holmes is one of my primary GTACS experts. I count on him for his knowledge to ensure unit combat effectiveness and Stan/Eval AFI compliance during formal inspections and staff assistance visits," said Maj. J. Cameron Burke, Chief, Battle Management Branch, 12 AF.

**Years of service:** 18

**Hometown:** Silver Spring, Md.

**Primary Duties and Responsibilities:** Responsible for implementation of 12 AF Stan/Eval programs for 19 flying wings and 16 GTACS/TACP active and gained units. Provides guidance to 50 Stan/Eval examiners in the administration of Air Combat Command, 12 AF Stan/Eval and training programs. Evaluates unit programs and assesses capability to perform war/peacetime missions.

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**MSgt. Holmes**



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